

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during September 2011

As of September 30, 2011, the end of Water Year 2011, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 135 percent of average to date; runoff, 145 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 130 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff observed through September 30, 2011 was about 25.1 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 138 percent of average. For comparison, on September 30, 2010, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 16.0 MAF, or about 88 percent of average.

At the end of a very wet Water Year 2011, the water supply outlook is exceptionally good. Annual average net water demand for urban and agriculture purposes (not including environmental requirements) is about 35 million acre-feet (MAF). Current Statewide reservoir storage of 130 percent of average translates into approximately 7 million acre-feet MAF above average (about an additional 20 percent of a year's supply).

On September 30, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 72.7 inches, which is about 145 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During September, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 0.5 inches, which is about 56 percent of the monthly average. Last year on September 30, the water year total for the 8-Stations was 53.6 inches, or about 107 percent of average.

On September 30, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 65.0 inches, which is about 159 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During September, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 0.9 inches, which is about 113 percent of the monthly average. Last year on September 30, the water year total for the 5-Stations to was 44.7 inches, or about 110 percent of average.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 09/30/2011 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
City	Jul 1 to Date 2011 - 2011 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2010 - 2010 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2011- 2012
Eureka	0.57	53	1.58	146	1
Redding	0.28	31	0.47	52	1
Sacramento	0.01	3	0.01	3	0
San Francisco	0.11	41	0.06	22	0
Fresno	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
Bakersfield	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
Los Angeles	0.01	3	0.00	0	0
San Diego	0.13	65	0.05	25	1

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 09/30/2011								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,167	1,700	127	2,448	89	---	281
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,341	2,810	119	4,552	73	-1,211	1,211
Lake Oroville	Feather	3,045	2,252	135	3,538	86	-306	493
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	701	590	119	966	73	-209	265
Folsom Lake	American	740	558	133	977	76	-237	237
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	2,052	1,331	154	2,420	85	-221	368
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,632	1,363	120	2,030	80	-140	398
Lake McClure	Merced	767	509	151	1,025	75	-86	258
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	356	203	176	520	68	-164	164
Pine Flat Res	Kings	614	348	177	1,000	61	-386	386
Isabella	Kern	223	184	121	568	39	-81	345
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,516	993	153	2,039	74	---	523

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for October 2011, issued September 30, 2011, suggests above average rainfall for Northern California and below average rainfall for Southern California. The outlook suggests no tendency for above or below average rainfall for the central part of the State.